

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00817 281649Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 OMB-01 /101 W

-----281656Z 010859 /45

P R 281415Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5287

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSYV LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK 1218

UNCLAS LUSAKA 0817

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, RH, ZA

SUBJECT: NKOMO REACTS SHARPLY TO MUZOREWA S CALL FOR A REFERENDUM
IN RHODESIA

REF: LUSAKA 0816

1. MARCH 28 ZAMBIAN DAILY MAIL CARRIES AN ACCOUNT OF JOSHUA
NKOMO'S REACTION TO MUZOREWA'S CALL FOR REFERENDUM (REFTEL).
NKOMO SAID THAT MUZOREWA COULD NEVER RAISE AN ARMY TO FIGHT
BLACK NATIONALIST GUERRILLAS BECAUSE HE IS KNOWN AS A "HARMLESS
HUMPTY-DUMPTY TO THE ENEMY". NKOMO MAINTAINED THAT SINCE
SMITH HAS MADE CLEAR THAT HE WOULD REJECT ANY U.K. OR U.S.
PROPOSALS WHICH BROUGHT ABOUT MAJORITY RULE, ANY DEAL MUZOREWA
MADE WITH SMITH WOULD BE A "SELL-OUT". A REFERENDUM CAN COME
ONLY AFTER A CONSTITUTION, WHICH GIVES ZIMBABWE
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INDEPENDENCE, HAS BEEN AGREED ON ACCORDING TO NKOMO.
HE ATTRIBUTED MUZOREWA'S CRITICISM OF ZAMBIA
TO HIS BEING A PUPPET OF IMPERIALISM. IN CLOSING, NKOMO SAID
THAT HE WOULD NO LONGER ANSWER
MUZOREWA S STATEMENTS, BUT
WOULD CONCENTRATE ON THE PROSECUTION OF THE WAR.

2. DAILY MAIL EDITORIAL OF MARCH 28 CASTIGATES MUZOREWA'S INITIAL CALL FOR A REFERENDUM AMONG RHODESIAN BLACKS AS FITTING INTO SMITH'S IMPERIALIST PLANS AND BRITAIN'S DIVIDE AND RULE TACTICS. NOW THAT SMITH HAS REJECTED AS A "NON-STARTER" MUZOREWA'S CALL FOR A REFERENDUM AMONG ALL RHODESIANS, BRITAIN SHOULD ADVISE MUZOREWA THAT HIS "CONTRIVED, SO-CALLED POPULARITY" WILL NOT PROTECT HIM FROM BEING MADE A FOOL OF BY SMITH. ANYTHING MUZOREWA DOES WITH SMITH WILL PERPETUATE SMITH'S "CHEATING" OF THE RHODESIA PEOPLE WHICH HE HAS BEEN DOING SINCE THE UDI. "THE ONLY THING SMITH HAS SO FAR NOT BEEN ABLE TO CLEAR CHEAT IS THE GUN IN THE HANDS OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT".
LOW

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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